

cityscene

What's happening in the City of Fairfax

JULY 2021

born on the
fourth of july

Mrs. Virginia Mahoney Celebrates 95 Years on Independence Day

The city would like to wish a very special happy birthday to longtime Fairfax City resident Mrs. Virginia Mahoney, who turns 95 on the Fourth of July. Mrs. Mahoney moved from the Shenandoah Valley to the then-Town of Fairfax in 1944 and has lived in her lovely brick home on Warwick Avenue since 1946. "She is a beauti-

ful, intelligent, cheerful, and devoted city resident," says Laura Pedersen, Mrs. Mahoney's close friend.

Born in 1926, in Rockingham County, Va., Mrs. Mahoney grew up on a self-sustaining farm. The only groceries her father shopped for were

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INDEPENDENCE DAY CELEBRATION

The parade begins at 10 a.m. on Saturday, July 3, in Old Town Fairfax, rain or shine. The fireworks evening show begins at 6:30 p.m. on Sunday, July 4, at the Fairfax High School stadium (3501 Lion Run), with live music from '70s Flashback. The fireworks will begin at 9:30 p.m. The rain date for the fireworks is July 5.



CITY NEWS

Independence Day Holiday Closures and Services Information

Saturday, July 3

- Historic Blenheim: closed
- No CUE Bus Service

Sunday, July 4

- Museum and Visitor Center: closed
- No CUE Bus Service

Monday, July 5

- City government offices: closed
- General District Court: closed
- CUE Bus: Saturday schedule

Holiday Refuse/Recycling Collection Schedule

- Monday, July 5: no service
- Tuesday, July 6: Monday and Tuesday refuse & recycling routes collected
- July 5-9: all city neighborhoods may experience yard-debris collection service delays



Tip 'n Toss to Eliminate Mosquitos

As warm weather arrives, so do mosquitoes, which can spread viruses such as Zika and West Nile.

"Fight the bite" by implementing a household mosquito control program, with help from the Fairfax County Health Department.

Tip and toss standing water — or treat standing water with safe larvicides — and carefully treat the yard with safe insecticides. Also, keep butterflies, honeybees, and other outdoor friends in mind when treating yards. *Info: fairfaxcounty.gov, search "Fight the Bite," 703-246-2411*

City's Annual Budget Available, July 1

Read and download the city's annual operating budget and Capital Improvements Program for fiscal year 2021-22. Find it at fairfaxva.gov/budget, or request a printed copy (limited number available). *Info: 703-385-7870*

Community Farmers' Markets, Saturdays and Sundays

Fresh fruits and vegetables are just some of the many attractions of the Community Farmers Markets, held twice a week and sponsored by the Downtown Fairfax Coalition. *10500 Page Ave. (across from Truro Church), 8 a.m.-1 p.m. Saturdays (fairfaxsaturdaymarket.com); 10 a.m.- 2 p.m. Sundays (fairfaxsundaymarket.com).*



Subscribe to see what you're missing!

www.youtube.com/user/cityoffairfaxva



COUNCIL REPORTER

PLEASE NOTE: summaries have been edited. To read the full Council Reporter, visit fairfaxva.gov and click on "City Meetings."

COUNCIL ACTIONS OF MAY 5, 2021

PUBLIC HEARINGS

- Approved, unanimously, readopting City Code Chapter 90, pertaining to classification and taxation of real property in the city used for or zoned for commercial and industrial purposes, including a tax rate for calendar year 2021 at \$0.125 per \$100 of assessed value, revenues from which to be used exclusively for transportation purposes that benefit the city.
- Approved, unanimously, an ordinance amending City Code Chapter 102, to increase the rates for wastewater services by 6 percent, effective for bills rendered on or after July 1, 2021.

ITEMS NOT REQUIRING A PUBLIC HEARING

- Approved, 5-1, to adopt the General Fund, Capital Fund, Wastewater Fund, Stormwater Fund, Cable Grant Fund, Old Town Service District Fund, Transit Fund, and Transportation Tax Fund FY22 Budgets, as presented by the city manager, together with the proposed FY22 schedule of Rates and Levies, FY22-26 Capital Improvement Program, the FY22 health benefit contribution rates, a 3.5 percent merit increase and 2.3 percent market rate adjustment to employee pay scales effective January 1, 2022, for the City of Fairfax and eligible employees. (*In favor: Council members Harmon, Lim, Miller, Ross, and Stehle. Opposed: Councilmember Yi.*)
- Approved, unanimously, an amendment to the main motion incorporating all changes included in the budget change document.
- Approved, 5-1, setting the real estate tax rate at \$1.075 per \$100 of assessed value, of which 3¢ of that rate will be dedicated to the stormwater fund; set the personal property and machinery and tools tax rate at \$4.13 per \$100 of assessed value based upon the assessment ratio of 100 percent of fair market value; and set the personal property tax rate at 1¢ per \$100 of assessed value for those members of volunteer fire departments or volunteer rescue squads qualifying under city code. These rates will be effective as of January 1, 2021. (*In favor: Councilmembers Harmon, Lim, Miller, Ross, and Stehle. Opposed: Councilmember Yi.*)
- Approved, 5-1, the appropriation resolutions for the general, capital, wastewater, transit, stormwater, cable, old town, and transportation tax funds for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2021, reflecting all changes approved as part of the FY22 budget adoption, immediately prior to this action. (*In favor: Councilmembers Harmon, Lim, Miller, Ross, and Stehle. Opposed: Councilmember Yi.*)

COUNCIL ACTIONS OF MAY 11, 2021

CONSENT AGENDA

- Approved, unanimously: Consideration to authorize the city manager to execute the new six-year Capital Funding Agreement with the Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority; Consideration to award a contract for the Tusico Branch Phase 2 Stream Restoration project; Consideration to authorize the city manager to execute the Joint Sherwood-Willard Redevelopment Phase I Design Development Agreement with Fairfax County; Consideration of an award of professional service contract to Blue Heron Leadership Group for Joint Sherwood-Willard Community Center project; Consideration of an amended and restated resolution for the Environmental Sustainability Committee; Introduction of an appropriation resolution for \$877,304 for FY 2021 federal, state, other grants, contributions, and donations; Introduction of an ordinance granting a license agreement to the Fairfax Eruv Committee for placement of Eruv facilities on existing joint-use utility poles in the public right-of-way. (*Councilmember Yi was absent.*)

PUBLIC HEARINGS

- Approved, unanimously, a supplemental appropriation resolution for \$941,556 for FY21 year-end non-discretionary and Council-authorized expenditures for the General Fund and the Capital Fund. (*Councilmember Yi was absent.*)

COUNCIL ACTIONS OF MAY 25, 2021

CONSENT AGENDA

- Approved, unanimously, after discussion: Consideration of a resolution authorizing the city manager or his designee to execute all funding documentation as it relates to the American Rescue Plan Act and the Coronavirus State and Local Fiscal Recovery Fund; Introduction of an ordinance amending City Code Chapter 74 (Solid Waste) pertaining to a prohibition on the use of plastic bags for yard waste.

PUBLIC HEARINGS

- Approved, unanimously, and authorized a license agreement between the City of Fairfax and Fairfax Eruv Committee to place Eruv facilities on certain existing joint-use utility poles in the public right-of-way, with permission of pole owner(s). Eruv is a ritual enclosure constructed to facilitate activities otherwise prohibited on the Jewish Sabbath.
- Approved, unanimously, an appropriation resolution for \$877,304 for FY20-21 federal, state, and other grants, and the release of restricted funds.

APPOINTMENTS TO BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS

- Approved, unanimously, to appoint: Heather Waye to the Board of Architectural Review; Russell Jones to the Board of Zoning Appeals; Simmy King to the Commission for Women; and Jim Feather as the Planning Commission representative to the Board of Architectural Review.
- Approved, unanimously, to reappoint: Huilan Larson to the Commission for Women; and Patricia Gallagher to the Commission on the Arts.

born on the fourth of july

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flour and sugar. When she was 18, she visited a friend in town and heard Fairfax County was hiring. She applied for a job in purchasing at the Fairfax County Courthouse and was soon on a Greyhound Bus headed east, leaving her pastoral life behind for a 30-year career in public service.

When Mrs. Mahoney arrived, she lived in Mr. Farr's garage apartment on Route 236. "Mr. Farr told me if I found him a secretary from the valley, he'd rent me his garage apartment," Mrs. Mahoney says. She kept her end of the deal, but her friend got sick before reporting for duty. "But I got the apartment," she says, smiling.

In 1944, several members of the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors were farmers and Farrcroft was still farmland. "I remember the cows," Mrs. Mahoney says. The farm was wooded, but the creek was visible through the trees. Mr. Farr worried about her living alone. He asked if she had a gun for protection. When she said no, Mr. Farr asked if she could at least shoot one. Mrs. Mahoney, who grew up with guns but never touched

them, said, "No, sir, Mr. Farr." "I wasn't one bit afraid. I felt very safe there," Mrs. Mahoney says.

Life was slower back then, but occasionally Mrs. Mahoney would take the bus into D.C. to join her girlfriends at a nightclub. They always had a good time.

When World War II ended, the momentous occasion was announced over the radio. Mrs. Mahoney recalls a general sense of happiness and relief and people walking out of their houses and celebrating in the middle of Route 50, which wasn't the busy thoroughfare it is now. "Everyone was happy," she says. "I'll never forget it."

Mrs. Mahoney met her husband, James, while he was on leave from his post in the South Pacific. The young Navy Seabee was standing behind the police dispatcher's desk when she delivered a telephone bill. Afterward, as she was telling her supervisor about a sailor who had flirted with her, Jim entered the office, causing an awkward moment – so awkward that she got up and hid in the bathroom. He went back overseas, and when he was discharged a year later at the end of the war, one of the first things he did was ask the young purchasing agent for a date.

James, a police officer in the county who eventually retired as deputy chief, used to lead raids on illegal stills scattered throughout the county. After the war, there was no place in Fairfax to rent. The nearest place was in Falls Church, but it was unheard of to commute that far to work. Officer Mahoney owned a parcel of land on Warwick Avenue, and his friend was a builder.



Mrs. Mahoney picked out a floorplan from a catalog, and the roof of their new home was finished on their wedding day. Many of the trees and shrubs she planted continue to thrive. Looking back over the years, Mrs. Mahoney says, "We never regretted it."

The Mahoney's raised two sons in their home: Jimmy and Gregory, original Fairfax High School graduates who now live in California and Florida. They were handsome and athletic, and all the girls had crushes on them. Mrs. Mahoney remembers them playing football in her living room, but most of the roughhousing took place in their spacious yard, where the neighborhood kids played ball.

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Born on the Fourth of July

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Not long ago, Mrs. Mahoney was pulling weeds in her front yard when a car pulled up. The passenger asked if she was Mrs. Mahoney. When she confirmed her identity, the men shared fond memories of growing up with her sons and playing in her yard. This happens often, and she always enjoys the encounters.

Officer Mahoney grew a wide variety of vegetables in their large garden and sold eggs to fellow police officers from the chickens he raised. "He was a real gardener," says Mrs. Mahoney. "The tomatoes were always outstanding."

In the early 1950s there was no Lutheran church in the Town of Fairfax. One day, Ed Pfeiffer knocked on her door and asked Mrs. Mahoney, a Lutheran, if she would be interested in starting one. The growing congregation met for services at Fairfax High School until they had a church of their own.

Mrs. Mahoney was called upon to serve as a voting precinct registrar. She remembers conducting voting tests in her home during the days of Jim Crow laws. She confessed to her supervisor that she had helped African Americans pass the unfair tests, which were designed to keep them from the polls. Her supervisor told her not to worry about it.

Sharing a birthday with the nation has always been fun for Mrs. Mahoney. "There's always a celebration!" she says. Sometimes her chocolate cake (her favorite kind) would be decorated with sparklers. Mrs. Mahoney enjoys fireworks shows and has attended the city's show in the past.

Mrs. Mahoney's sons and their families, including her two grandkids, will be in town to celebrate her 95th birthday. She's looking forward to their visit. On the Fourth of July, when you see a colorful explosion in the sky, be sure to wish Mrs. Mahoney a happy birthday – and many more.



22ND ANNUAL LABOR DAY
CAR SHOW

SAVE THE DATE
SEPT 06
2021

4081 UNIVERSITY DR FAIRFAX, VA **8AM - 3 PM**

FAIRFAX CITY **LIONS CLUB INTERNATIONAL**



Cruise into Fairfax City's Labor Day Car Show

Put the pedal to the metal and come check out hundreds of cars, trucks, and motorcycles at the 22nd Annual Labor Day Car Show on September 6. Admission is free for this end of summer party! The high-octane event will be held from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. behind Fire Station 3 on University Drive. From sleek imports to classic muscle cars and every vehicle in between, the biggest car show in the region will

indulge your passion for speed, power, and style.

The car show is sponsored by the Clifton Lions Club, Capital Ale House, and the City of Fairfax. While there is no charge for admission, every dollar you spend on food, raffles, merchandise, and the silent auction will be donated to charities, such as Life with Cancer and the Northern Virginia

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GETTING TO KNOW MAYOR DAVID MEYER

Why do you serve as Mayor?

Being able to sustain and strengthen our quality of life, help our residents, and represent our city in the Northern Virginia and Metro D.C. region is a distinct privilege for which I am so grateful. My thanks to the citizens of our city who have placed their trust in the City Council and me to guide our city to achieve its full potential as a community.

What one thing do you want to accomplish during this term?

As we recover from the pandemic, my hope is that we recapture the excitement and grasp the many opportunities all around us. This is a transformative time in the life of our city. I am inspired by the many residents, both newer and long-tenured, who are becoming involved

in our civic life. And, specifically, I am thrilled that our new Fire Station 33 on Fairfax Boulevard will be completed later this year – what a great way to affirm our support for the dedicated public servants who will work there.

What do you love most about the city?

Our people. We are a diverse community – not just ethnically and culturally, but also in the broad range of gifts and talents that our residents contribute to our civic life every day. Our residents constantly challenge and encourage me and my colleagues on the City Council to see, think, and act as expansively and as inclusively as possible. Our people keep our city vibrant, dynamic, and forward-focused – when we all collaborate, there is no limit to what we can accomplish.



What is one thing you want people to know about you?

When I was 20 years old, I had a summer job as trash collector in the public works department for the Town of Vienna. That was hard work. I gained a deep appreciation for the employees of local governments and how they serve citizens every day. And I did gain some interesting “insights” about a few neighbors by what they discarded – but their secrets are safe with me.



Only Rain Down the Drain

Only rain down the storm drain. That's the motto of the Northern Virginia Clean Water Partners, whose goal is cleaner streams for residents and a healthier Chesapeake Bay for all.

Polluted stormwater runoff is the number one cause of poor water quality in Northern Virginia rivers and streams. These fresh water sources are where we draw our municipal drinking water. The NVCWP works to keep local water customers healthy and safe by reducing the amount of pollution that reaches local creeks and rivers.

The NVCWP represent 11 Northern Virginia local governments, two independent water and sanitary sewer authorities, and local businesses that care about the quality of our waterways and the region's quality of life.

Visit onlyrain.org for more information.

The City of Fairfax Department

of Public Works manages, maintains, and repairs approximately 60 miles of storm drain pipe and 3,650 storm sewer structures throughout the city that directly discharge into local waterways.

If you are aware of any discharges into storm sewers, city streams, or even on roads that appear to be of a chemical nature – including oil or any hazardous substances that should not be allowed into the city streams – please immediately contact the City of Fairfax Fire Marshal.



Labor Day Car Show

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Therapeutic Riding Program. The 2020 Labor Day Car Show Wave Parade raised \$15,000, and the organizers are hoping to raise much more this year now that the public health crisis has improved.

Among the many highlights of the 2021 show is former city councilmember Jeff Greenfield's 1999 Dodge Viper RT/10, a gorgeous hot rod he had always dreamed of owning. Greenfield bought the car from Brett Hull when the star hockey player was traded in 2001 from the Dallas Stars to the Detroit Red Wings. Greenfield loves to share his baby with other auto aficionados, but he really loves experiencing the car show's multigenerational attendance. "From the spectator side, it is fun to see the grandfather, father, and kids looking at the cars, and grandpa sharing stories about the cars he owned as a young man," Greenfield says. "That is the heart of the show."

The fee to show a vehicle is \$25 per entry. Email carshowmgmt@gmail.com to learn more, or visit labordaycarshow.org. All participants will receive a commemorative cap when they pre-register. The caps will be available to attendees for \$15 during the show. For those who are unable to attend but still want to support the charities' missions, tax-deductible donations can be made online. Your generosity is greatly appreciated!

Grab a hot dog from the Lions Club and rev-up young imaginations with stories from your glory days behind the wheel of your favorite ride. Chat with show vehicle owners and jump-start your love for the freedom of the open road. Don't miss the best – and only – Labor Day Car Show in Northern Virginia!



**City of Fairfax Band Association
Small Ensembles In Concert
at Veterans Amphitheater**
7:30 p.m. Thursdays in July
Who doesn't love an outdoor concert?



The Brief Shakespeare Festival
Join the City of Fairfax Theatre Company for dinner theatre at Veterans Amphitheater and enjoy Shakespeare in the City of Fairfax! If music be the food of love, play on! Join us for a whirlwind of Shakespeare performances from all ages. The Brief Shakespeare Festival consists of three groups of student actors performing some of Shakespeare's greatest works. Each group will perform two, 15-minute versions of different plays while playing several characters each. Each production will be bookended with monologues, sonnets, or scenes performed by adults. There will be music, food, laughs, tears, magic, love, and more. *Performances begin at 6 p.m. at Veterans Amphitheater, 10455 Armstrong Street, Fairfax.*

Friday, July 30
Saturday, July 31
Sunday, August 1
Friday, August 6
Saturday, August 7
Sunday, August 8

Rain dates (if needed): August 4, 5, 13, 14
The Brief Shakespeare Festival is directed by Olivia Hinebaugh and co-directed by Stephen Shetler and Justin Winters.

Kidz Korner

10:30 a.m. to 11:15 a.m. Saturdays in July and August at Old Town Square. Fun for the whole family! Nature shows, My Gym-Olympic Day, Drew Blue Shoes, Mad Science D.C., Peter McCorry-One Ma Band, Superhero Training, Oh Susannah.

Inaugural Neighborhood Art Celebration

For the first annual Neighborhood Art Celebration, Fairfax City residents were invited to create art in their front yards, turning the city into an outdoor gallery. Residents of all ages created their own masterpieces inspired by the *Art Heals* theme of the 2021 Spotlight on the Arts Festival. Fairfax Spotlight on the Arts, City of Fairfax Commission on the Arts, and Twins Ace Hardware provided 120 free art kits to encourage creativity during the celebration. In addition, more than 35 residents from around the city submitted their artwork to be featured as part of the Drive By Day of the Neighborhood Art Celebration. On the Drive By Day, the community was invited to download the map and drive around the city to enjoy the art created by their neighbors. The map was downloaded more than 250 times!



Mayor David L. Meyer (david.meyer@fairfaxva.gov)

City Council

Joseph D. Harmon (joseph.harmon@fairfaxva.gov)

So P. Lim (so.lim@fairfaxva.gov)

Janice B. Miller (janice.miller@fairfaxva.gov)

D. Thomas Ross (tom.ross@fairfaxva.gov)

Jon R. Stehle Jr. (jon.stehle@fairfaxva.gov)

Sang H. Yi (sang.yi@fairfaxva.gov)

City Manager Rob Stalzer (rob.stalzer@fairfaxva.gov)



contact us

WeCare@fairfaxva.gov

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Katherine Johnson Middle School

On Friday, June 4, the City of Fairfax School Board celebrated the renaming of Katherine Johnson Middle School. City of Fairfax Schools Superintendent Dr. Phyllis Pajardo opened the ceremony by saying, "Names really do matter. Names inspire. Names give hope. Names reassure our students that they are valued."

